

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01011 281206Z

47

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 S*B-01 EUR-25 AF-10 IO-14 DRC-01 /143 W

----- 109260

R 281022Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6197

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1011

FROM SCOTES, USINT DAMASCUS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US

SUBJ: REACTION TO SECRETARY'S VISIT

1. BASED ON TALKS WITH ITALIAN EMBASSY, SEVERAL DAMASCENES AND US NEWSMAN, SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS ARE PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF SECRETARY'S VISIT. THESE LATTER ARE REPORTEDLY QUOTED AS EXPRESSING VIEW THAT SYRIA WILL BE MAKING SOME POSITIVE MOVEMENTS TOWARD ATTENDANCE GENEVA CONFERENCE I* NEAR FUTURE. IN THIS REGARD, ITALIAN AMBASSADOR INFORMED ME THAT HE HAS LEARNED PRESIDENT ASSAD INTENDS TO HOLD CONGRESS OF PROGRESSIVE FRONT (UMBRELLA POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IN WHICH ALL SYRIAN POLITICAL PARTIES ARE REPRESENTED) TOWARD THE END OF JANUARY. AT THAT MEETING ASSAD INTENDS TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FOR HIS NEXT POLITICAL MOVES, E.G., SYRIAN ATTENDANCE AT GENEVA. ACCORDING ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ASSAD ALSO INTENDS ANNOUNCE HIS LONG-AWAITED CABINET RESHUFFLE (SEE OUR PREVIOUS CABLES ON THIS SUBJECT).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01011 281206Z

2. MEANWHILE, THERE ARE ALSO RUMORS IN DAMASCUS THAT

ASSAD PLANS CARRY OUT PURGE OF ARMY OFFICERS IN NEAR
FUTURE. THIS RUMOR HAS BEEN MAKING THE ROUNDS FOR THE
LAST SEVERAL WEEKS BUT HAS GAINED FUTHER CURRENCY OVER
LAST FEW DAYS. AT SAME TIME, THERE ARE REPORTS THAT
IRAQI TROOPS HAVE RETURNED TO SYRIA ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT
ON THE FRONT LINES. THIS RETURN REPORTEDLY FOLLOWS AN
AGREEMENTS REACHED WHEN PRESIDENT ASSAD VISITED BAGHDAD
SOME TWO WEEKS AGO (ITALIAN AMBASSADOR HAS CONFIRMATION
FROM PRESIDENT ASSAD'S PILOT THAT ASSAD, IN FACT, MADE
TRI* TO BAGHDAD).
HOUGHTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL TRAVEL, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BEIRUT01011
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740113/aaaaaljd.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <27 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTION TO SECRETARY'S VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005